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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/005,983	
Filing Date	November 7, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Keith D. Allen	
Group Art Unit	1636	
Examiner Name	Celine X. Qian	
Attorney Docket Number	R-517	

3-10-03

March 10, 2003

Date

	ENCLOSURES (check	all that apply)	
Fee Transmittal Form	Assignment Papers (for an Application)	After Allowance Communication to Group	
Fee Attached	Drawing(s)	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
Amendment/Reply_Restriction Requirement		Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)	
Affidavits/declaration(s)	Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	Proprietary Information Status Letter	
Extension of Time Request	Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):	
Express Abandonment Request	Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund		
Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority	CD, Number of CD(s)	RECEIVED	
Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/	Remarks	MAR 1 8 2003	
Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		TECH CENTER 1600/2909	
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name Kelly L. Quast, Reg. No. 52,141			
Signature Kelly FO	mant		
Date March 10, 200	3		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			

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#9

Applicant. Keith D. ALLEN et al.

Serial No.: 10/005,983

Filed: November 7, 2001

Title: Transgenic Mice Containing PERK

Protein Kinase Gene Disruptions

Group Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Qian, Celine X.

Customer No. 26619

Docket/Order No. R-517

Date: March 10, 2003

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

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In response to the Office Action mailed February 11, 2003, concerning the Examiner's restrictions, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, Invention I (claims 1-10, 12 and 14-22), drawn to a PERK targeting vector, a method of making said vector, a PERK gene knockout animal, cells isolated from said animal, and a method of making said animal.

In the restriction, the Examiner asserts that claims 1-24 are drawn to six distinct subjects, grouped as: Invention I (claims 1-10, 12 and 14-22), drawn to a PERK targeting vector, a method of making said vector, a PERK gene knockout animal, cells isolated from said animal, and a method of making said animal; Invention II (claim 11), drawn to a method of identifying an agent that regulates PERK expression by using a PERK knockout cell; Invention III (claim 11), drawn to a method of identifying an agent that regulates PERK function by using a PERK knockout cell; Invention IV (claim 13), drawn to an agent that regulates the expression or function of PERK; Invention V (claim 23), drawn to an agent that ameliorates a phenotype of the PERK knockout mouse; and Invention VI (claims 24 and 25), drawn to an agonist or an antagonist of PERK. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for restriction and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement.

As stated in MPEP §803, the requirements for a proper claim restriction are as follows: "(a) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and (b) there must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required."

A proper claim restriction must place a "serious burden" on the Examiner if the claims were examined without a restriction. In order to establish a serious burden, the Examiner must "show by appropriate explanation one of the following: separate classification thereof, a separate status in the art, or a different field of search." This showing of a serious burden is required even if the claimed inventions have been shown to be distinct. See MPEP §808.02

The instant Office Action generally asserts that restriction is warranted between Inventions I through VI in that the claimed inventions are patentably distinct. The Examiner has based this conclusion on alleged material (biological, chemical or functional) differences between compositions, or alleged differences in the materials and modes of operation required for methods. However, Applicants submit that the Examiner has not established that a serious burden would result from a search of the invention groups together. Applicants do not believe that the Examiner has fulfilled the requirements for a proper claim restriction based on a serious burden standard. Applicants believe that a search of any one of Invention groups I through VI would produce results that would encompass the subject matter of each of the invention groups. Thus, a serious burden would not be placed on the Examiner in order to conduct a search and examination of the claims of Inventions I through VI.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the claims of Invention I and Inventions IV-VI are patentably distinct in that the inventions are drawn to materially distinct compositions and methods that are not related. In particular, the Examiner asserts that the compositions of Invention I and Inventions IV-VI are biologically, chemically and functionally distinct from each other. Applicants disagree with the Examiner's conclusion in that the subject matter of Invention I and Inventions IV-VI are closely related. Thus, the additional burden of a separate search or examination would not be required.

The Examiner also asserts that the claims of Invention II and Invention III are patentably distinct in that the inventions are drawn to methods that require different starting materials and modes of operation. Applicants disagree with the Examiner's conclusion in that the inventions are related. In particular, the inventions relate to methods of using a PERK disrupted cell to identify agents that modulate PERK. The methods require the same or closely related steps and modes of operation. Applicants submit that a reasonable search or examination of the prior art on this subject would produce results encompassing the subject matter of both invention groups, and would not put serious burden on the Examiner.

Finally, the Examiner asserts that the claims of Inventions I, and IV-VI and Inventions II and III are patentably distinct because the inventions are unrelated, and have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects. Applicants disagree with the Examiner's conclusion. Applicants believe that a reasonable search of the prior art, *e.g.* a search based on PERK disruptions, would produce results related to each of the invention groups. A search and examination of the claims of each of these inventions can therefore be made without additional burden on the Examiner.

Although Applicants have provisionally elected Invention I for the purposes of advancing prosecution of the present application, Applicants contend for the foregoing reasons that the requirement for restriction between Inventions I through VI is improper. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement.

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Name: Deborah A. Mojarro

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Date: 3/10/03